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QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 19 July 1998 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your attention to a number of illegal actions of Turkey and the Turkish-Cypriot leadership on the occasion of the "celebrations" of the twenty-fourth Anniversary of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus.

On 18 July 1998, Turkey sent five warships, including two submarines, two frigates and a gunboat, which arrived in the occupied port of Kyrenia, as well as seven military aircraft (NF-5), which landed at the occupied airfield of Lefkoniko.

The above-mentioned vessels and military aircraft are scheduled to participate in the so-called "ceremonies" of 20 July 1998, marking the Turkish invasion and occupation of the northern part of the island.

Moreover, Turkish Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz is due to attend ceremonies in the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus on the above-mentioned date.

These provocative actions by Turkey are in contravention of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant United Nations resolutions on Cyprus, mainly resolutions 541 (1983) and 550 (1984). By these resolutions, the Security Council deplored and condemned the secessionist entity in the occupied area of the Republic of Cyprus, declaring it legally invalid, and called upon all States to respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and not to facilitate or in any other way assist the said secessionist entity. Furthermore, the very recent Security Council resolution 1179 (1998) called for refraining from any action which might prejudice that sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

I wish to express my Government's strongest protest against these illegal actions perpetuated by Turkey in Cyprus. After 24 years of occupation and mass violations of the human rights of the people of Cyprus, one third of the island's population is still being prevented by the Turkish occupation forces from returning to their homes in the occupied northern part of the island and is subject to the continuous provocation of the Turkish side.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Agis LOIZOU
Chargé d'affaires a.i.